Resources Research

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On-line Dictionaries

There is a huge variety of dictionaries on-line, but only a few of them are useful for translation purposes. These are classified in five different types: monolingual, bilingual, plurilingual, synonyms and antonyms and specific. The most appropriate on-line monolingual dictionaries are the Cambridge Dictionary, Oxford Dictionary and Pearson Longman Dictionary on the accounts of offering many definitions for the same word and in the Pearson Longman Dictionary’s case it displays distinctions in between American English and British English. There are many on-line bilingual dictionaries but the most suitable is Alpha Dictionary due to the fact that it offers, apart from definitions or translations, misspelled words, mispronounced words, confused words, etc. On the other hand there are on-line plurilingual dictionaries which are more frequently used to translate, such as <http://de.pons.eu/>, <http://es.thefreedictionary.com/> or <http://wordreference.com/>. Another type of dictionary that is also advantageous when translating is the thesaurus where it is possible to find synonyms and antonyms as in the case of <http://www.synonym.com/>, <http://dictionary.reverso.net/english-synonyms/>, <http://www.rhymezone.com/> and thesaurus.com/Roget-Alpha-Index.html. Finally there are the on-line specific dictionaries such as <http://www.online-medical-dictionary.org/>, <http://www.businessdictionary.com/> and <http://dictionary.law.com/> (USA), http://sixthformlaw.info/03\_dictionary/index.htm (UK).